



WILLIAM BARNES PRIMARY SCHOOL
Bridge Street
Sturminster Newton
Dorset DT10 1BZ

Tel/Fax: 01258 472257
E: office@williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk
W: www.williambarnes.dorset.sch.uk



May 2021 Newsletter

Dear Parents/carers

I hope you all had a lovely Easter and enjoyed the sunshine when we had it! Wasn't it lovely to be able to meet some of our loved ones again outside, even though we had to wrap up warm!? It was lovely to see all our children back again on 19th April. I would like to compliment all our children on their positive attitude and great focus on their return in March and their return again after Easter. We are very proud of them all. Hopefully we will all be able to enjoy a near normal summer term. We will continue to follow all Government guidelines to maintain the safety of all our children. If there are any changes we will let you know. Please continue to maintain social distancing and wear masks at drop off and pick up. Please be aware that we are only using teams when a child is self isolating. If a child is unwell they will not be expected to join in the learning. Teams is also not regularly monitored and so please email the teachers or call the office with any queries.

Communication

It has been wonderful to work closely with our parents and carers during the pandemic. We would really like to continue to forge the strong links we have made. We are all passionate about our children and so can I ask when having a conversation or sending an email or letter please can I remind you that it is important to remain respectful, as we are to you. We are all working together for the best of our children.

We send our congratulations to Mr Newman on the birth of his baby son. Mr Newman will be back at school on Tuesday 4th May.

Be Prepared

The weather is still so changeable so please can children remember to bring in a coat. Can they also be prepared with a sunhat and bottle of water– as the hot weather returns!

Headlice

This **Friday**, next **Monday** and **Thursday** we will once again be sending out headlice buster texts. PLEASE check all your children's hair on these days so we can try to rid the school of headlice. We rely on parents and carers being vigilant and checking your child's hair.

Take Care

We do not endorse the riding of scooters to school due to the concern with the narrow pavements, if you allow your child to ride their scooter to school please remind them to be very careful. For any child walking or scooting on their own we would ask you to remind them to take care when crossing the roads.

PHSE

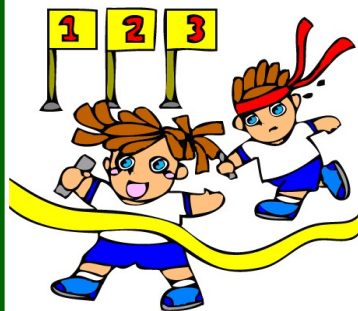
I will be holding my annual Relationship and Sex Education presentation on 12th May, virtually at 1.30pm. Please email the office so that we know who to invite to the meeting. This will be the same as last year for those who have already attend-

Dates for your Diary

May Day—Monday 3rd May

(No school)

Family Drop in— contact school office if you would like an appointment.



ed. This is part of our PSHE Jigsaw scheme. There will be two or three lessons only focused on sex education and so your child may wish to discuss what they have learnt with you. The teachers will text you when these lessons will be happening.

Residentials

This will be communicated to the relevant year groups by the teachers.

Moving on

Please be aware we do send on all relevant information to the High School when Year 6 leave or when a child moves to another school.

Exhibition

Years 2,3,4 and 5 will be taking part in a community project called The Magnificent Mill. They will be doing art and music workshops which will culminate in an exhibition on 18th July. We hope you will come with your family to view the exhibition. More information will follow. As with all events this is subject to some flexibility and change due to covid restrictions.

Sports Day

Sports Day Following the success from the last four years, Key stage 1 sports day will be in the morning of 30th June and Key stage 2 in the afternoon. We don't know if parents can join yet or if we can go ahead or are able to have a picnic. Parents may either join their children or give written permission to the office for them to go with another family to the field for a picnic. This will of course be confirmed when we have the governments guidelines.

Year 6

Year 6 production The Year 6 production of "Goodbye my friend" will be an afternoon and evening performance on the 15th July and an evening performance on the 16th July. We do not know at this stage if parents will be able to join us. We are also hoping to hold our year 6 leavers assembly on 23rd July at 10.00.

Family Night

We don't know if Family night will be able to go ahead this year on Friday 19th July, we will keep you updated on this. If it is it would be lovely to see as many parents as possible there.

Events

As with all events this term we will need to be flexible in the event of children needing to self isolate. We will try to inform you as soon as possible if any changes will take place. We thank you for your understanding. The PTFA have registered William Barnes with Amazon smile. If you are ordering from Amazon you can sign up for an Amazon smile account and then a percentage of profit will go to William Barnes. The information is on the PTFA Facebook page.

Drop in Sessions for families

Donna Lane, Family Worker from the Early Help Service is holding drop in sessions for any families in need of advice or support or even if you just need to come in for a chat. We are offering half hour appointments with the last one at 12.30 and these can be booked at the school office. Donna is a hugely experienced Family Worker who has worked with families with a variety of issues and needs from parenting support and behaviour management to going back to work. The Family Partnership Zone are also holding Parenting Skills and Strategies sessions which will



Attendance

Please remember that the government is keen to improve pupils attendance at school and that we may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless for exceptional circumstances. We also issue notices for fines to the LA holidays of 10 sessions or over in a rolling six month period. One session is equal to a morning or an afternoon session, therefore a whole day would be 2 sessions of absence. This is in line with SNHS, our primary pyramid schools and LA policy. I know we all want the best education for our children and good attendance is paramount in that.

We finish for half term on Thursday 27th May at 3.15 p.m. and return on Monday June 7th . The dates for next year are attached. As ever, if you have any concerns please do not hesitate to contact me, we are all part of our village for our children.

Best Wishes
Karen Wrixon
Headteacher

